

Southeast PTO Minutes
January 5, 2015

Members in Attendance: Erin Christopher, Erin Clark, Jana MacDonald, Amy Dunstan, Heather Plourde, Lauren Rodriguez, Jon Sgro, Mary deVecchis, Esther Soffer Roberts

Agenda:

Erin Clark called the meeting to order at 6:35.

1. *Upcoming Events and Fundraisers:*

- *Munson's Fundraiser – Lena Rossi is coordinating.
- *Cocoa and Cultural Crafts – will be held this Friday at 6:45. We will gather carafes for cocoa. We have several volunteers to run the craft tables.
- *Mother/son bowling – Friday, 2/6. This event runs on the same night as the annual father/daughter dance. It is mainly being organized by the Vinton PTO. More details to come.
- *Game Night – Friday, 2/20. 6:30-7:30. Noreen Halbrooks is organizing this event. No need to bring anything - just come and play a game!
- *Pancake Breakfast at Applebee's– Saturday 2/28 from 8-10 am. Cyndi Wells is organizing. We will need approximately 5 adults and 10-15 kids to help serve.
- *Tri-School Basketball Game – Friday, 3/20. The doors open at 6:15 and the game starts at 6:30. The facility at EO Smith has been reserved.

2. *Adopt-a-Family:*

All of the cards from the bulletin board were taken and the Southeast community was very generous. A few of the families sent "Thank-You" notes, which we were able to share at the meeting.

3. *Principal's Report:*

Mrs. Rodriguez made mention that she is appreciative of the Southeast PTO's efforts.

The district has discussed the fact that holiday celebrations should be diverse. Lauren celebrated the fact that Southeast did just that. We had a Kwanza play, Jewish parents taught about Hanukkah, we held an author's tea which celebrated 4th grade writing and the kindergarteners made gingerbread houses. We also had a "Frozen Day" and a "Pajama Day" which made the last week before break really fun!

Author Sarah Albee will be coming to Southeast on 2/20. She is a Connecticut children's author. The sessions will be broken up into lower-primary and upper-primary. She will discuss topics such as how to be an author, how she does her work, etc. There is also the possibility of having a book signing.

4. ***School pictures:***

Erin Clark, Erin Christopher and Principal Rodriguez will meet with a representative from Coffee Pond. Darlene Murphy will be the contact person in the future. The PTO will offer support on picture days.

5. ***Morning PTO meetings*** are not well attended. In hopes of increasing PTO attendance, we are considering exploring an after school meeting. This will require more child care. Mary deVecchis also suggested holding a meeting from 2:30-3:30, before students are picked up. We will survey the community as to what day is best. Erin Christopher will create the survey. Heather also suggested hosting an evening meeting with a meal prior to it. People could feed their families and then there would be child care provided for the meeting. (Funds for child care and the meal would need to be made available.)

6. We need all ***new officers*** for next year. Please contact the PTO if you're interested.

7. ***Other:***

- a. **Southeast t-shirts/sweatshirts:*** People seem to really like them. They're affordable, but they could do without the large custom ink logo.
- b. **Treasurer:*** We no longer have "Stories for Southeast." We're suggesting that that money be applied to the author coming here this year.
- c.* There is a good amount of money designated for the "**Green Thumbs Club.**" Mary deVecchis will talk to Mr. Warinsky about how he would like to use that. Lauren Rodriguez will also talk to Ginny Walters about the balance.
- d.* Amy Dunstan made a motion to accept the minutes. Lauren seconded it.
- e.* Esther made a motion to make Erin Christopher signee on the checking account. Erin Clark seconded it.
- f.* Through the pajama day held in December, Southeast School raised a lot of money for CCMC. However, there isn't enough money in the PTO budget to double the collection.
- g. **Demi Fisher update:*** Apparently her tumors shrunk by 50% and her surgery is scheduled for the end of this month.
- h. **Dolly and me Tea:*** Cyndi Wells, Jess Higham and Lena Rossi are scheduled to coordinate this event. Erin Christopher will ask if they are still available.

Meeting adjourned at 7:42 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Jana MacDonald

PTO Secretary (substitute)